

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

US

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>FB/BC45215</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. <b>PCT/EP 00/00346</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>17/01/2000</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>19/01/1999</b>
Applicant <b>SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A. et al.</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
  - the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :
  - contained in the international application in written form.
  - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
  - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
  - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
  - the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
  - the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2.  Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3.  Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

**POLYNUCLEOTIDES AND THEIR APPLICATION IN DIAGNOSTICS**

5. With regard to the abstract,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

- as suggested by the applicant.
- because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- because this figure better characterizes the invention.

None of the figures.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/EP 00/00346

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

*see additional sheet*

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

*1-5 all partially*

### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

1. Claims: 1-5 all partially

A polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity to that of Seq.ID:1, a nucleotide sequence complementary to said polynucleotide, or fragments of said polynucleotide. A polynucleotide as above, in which the identity to Seq.ID:1 is at least 95%. A polynucleotide selected from: the polynucleotide of Seq.ID:1, a polynucleotide obtainable by screening an appropriate library with a labeled probe having the sequence of Seq.ID:1 or a fragment thereof, fragments or complementary nucleotide sequences thereof. A process for diagnosing a disease or susceptibility of disease, namely colon cancer, related to the presence or expression or activity of a polynucleotide, comprising analyzing the presence or amount of said polynucleotide in a sample derived from a subject.

2. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:2

3. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:3

4. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:4

5. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:5

6. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:6

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/00346

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C12N15/11 C12N15/12 C12Q1/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12N C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID HS1220328, Accession number AA422178 19 may 1997 99.8% identity with Seq.ID:1 nt.281-784 reverse orientation XP002136186 the whole document ---	1,3
X	Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID AA587764, Accession number AA587764 18 september 1997 99.3% identity with Seq.ID:1 nt.1-441 XP002136187 the whole document ---	1,3 -/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 April 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

13.07.00

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Macchia, G

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/00346

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID AI339648, Accession number AI339648 31 december 1998 100% identity with Seq.ID:1 nt.6-411 XP002136188 the whole document ---	1,3
A	WO 98 53319 A (THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY (US); VOGELSTEIN BERT; KINZLER KENNETH W.) 26 November 1998 (1998-11-26) abstract page 22 -page 80 ---	4,5
A	WO 97 33903 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM CORP (US); HUMAN GENOME SCIENCES INC (US); WEI Y-F) 18 September 1997 (1997-09-18) abstract page 50; claim 19 ----	4,5
A	WO 95 15381 A (JOHNS HOPKINS UNIV (US); DE LA CHAPELLE A.; VOGELSTEIN B.; KINZLER K.W) 8 June 1995 (1995-06-08) abstract page 48; claim 11 -----	4,5

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/00346

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9853319	A 26-11-1998	AU	7499198 A	11-12-1998
WO 9733903	A 18-09-1997	AU	5305596 A	01-10-1997
WO 9515381	A 08-06-1995	EP	0730648 A	11-09-1996
		JP	9506509 T	30-06-1997
		US	5693470 A	02-12-1997
		US	5837443 A	17-11-1998

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION  
(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office  
 Box PCT  
 Washington, D.C.20231  
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 11 September 2000 (11.09.00)	Applicant's or agent's file reference FB/BC45215
International application No. PCT/EP00/00346	Priority date (day/month/year) 19 January 1999 (19.01.99)
International filing date (day/month/year) 17 January 2000 (17.01.00)	
Applicant VINALS-BASSOLS, Carlota	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

26 July 2000 (26.07.00)

in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. The election  was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer C. Cupello  Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

Tyrell, Arthur W R.  
SMITHKLINE BEECHAM  
Two New Horizons Court  
Brentford  
Middlesex TW8 9EP  
GRANDE BRETAGNE

RECEIVED

18 JUN 2001

NEW HORIZONS COURT

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT  
(PCT Rule 71.1)

*Fax no: 44 20 8975 6294*

Applicant's or agent's file reference  FB/BC45215	<b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>	
International application No. PCT/EP00/00346	International filing date (day/month/year) 17/01/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 19/01/1999
Applicant SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A. et al.		

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/   European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized officer  Cardenas, C Tel.+31 70 340-3370
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

#### (PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>FB/BC45215</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. <b>PCT/EP00/00346</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>17/01/2000</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>19/01/1999</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>C12N15/11</b>		
<p><b>Applicant</b> <b>SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A. et al.</b></p> <p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 9 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of 1 sheets.</p> <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</li> <li>II    <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</li> <li>III    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</li> <li>IV    <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</li> <li>V    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</li> <li>VI    <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</li> <li>VII    <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</li> <li>VIII    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</li> </ul>		
Date of submission of the demand <b>26/07/2000</b>	Date of completion of this report <b>15.06.2001</b>	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized officer  <b>Macchia, G</b> Telephone No. +31 70 340 4078	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP00/00346

**I. Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

**Description, pages:**

1-37                   as originally filed

**Claims, No.:**

1-5                   with telefax of                   27/04/2001

**Drawings, sheets:**

1/1                   as originally filed

**Sequence listing part of the description, pages:**

1-5, filed with the letter of 28/03/2000

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP00/00346

- the description,      pages:
- the claims,      Nos.:
- the drawings,      sheets:

5.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

*(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*  
**see separate sheet**

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability**

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- the entire international application.
- claims Nos. 1-5, insofar as they relate to SEQ IDs NO:2-6.

because:

- the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
  - the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
  - the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
  - no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 1-5, insofar as they relate to SEQ IDs NO:2-6.
2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:
- the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.
  - the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP00/00346

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims 1, 2, 3(a), 4, 5
	No:	Claims 1, 3(b,c)
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims
	No:	Claims 1-5
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims 1-5
	No:	Claims

**2. Citations and explanations**  
**see separate sheet**

**VIII. Certain observations on the international application**

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:  
**see separate sheet**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/00346

**Re Item I**

**Basis of the report**

The amendments filed with the letter dated 27 April 2001 introduce subject-matter which extends beyond the content of the application as filed, contrary to Article 34(2)(b) PCT.

Amended claim 3 makes reference to a fragment of the polynucleotide of the invention, " said fragment (if necessary when coupled to a carrier) being capable of raising an immune response which recognises the polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:1 ".

No support for this amendment can be found in present application as filed, in particular, on page 7, lines 5-7 of present application it is referred to a **polypeptide** fragment having a certain immunogenic activity, and **not to a polynucleotide fragment**. Consequently, claim 3 as originally filed has instead been taken into consideration.

**Re Item III**

**Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability**

No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant.

Therefore, no International Search Report has been established for the subject-matter related to the polynucleotides as in SEQ IDs NO:2-6.

Consequently, no opinion is established for the subject-matter related to the polynucleotides as in SEQ IDs NO:2-6.

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1). Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID HS1220328, Accession number AA422178, 19 May 1997;

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/00346

D2: Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID AA587764, Accession number AA587764, 18 September 1997;

D3: Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID AI339648, Accession number AI339648, 31 December 1998.

- 2). Document D1 discloses a polynucleotide that is 99.8% identical, in reverse orientation, to the polynucleotide expressed as SEQ ID NO:1 of present application in the range from nucleotide 281 to nucleotide 784 of SEQ ID NO:1. Document D2 discloses a polynucleotide that is 99.3% identical to the polynucleotide expressed as SEQ ID NO:1 of present application in the range from nucleotide 1 to nucleotide 441 of SEQ ID NO:1. Document D3 discloses a polynucleotide that is 100% identical to the polynucleotide expressed as SEQ ID NO:1 of present application, in the range from nucleotide 6 to nucleotide 411 of SEQ ID NO:1. Therefore the polynucleotides disclosed in D1-D3 can be considered as fragments of a polynucleotide as claimed in claims 1 and 3(c). Moreover, said polynucleotides hybridize with the polynucleotide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, therefore, they are embraced by the scope of claim 3(b). As a consequence, documents D2 and D3 are novelty destroying for claim 1 (as far as claim 1 refers to fragments of the polynucleotide as in SEQ ID NO:1) and documents D1, D2 and D3 are novelty destroying for claims 3(b) and 3(c) because there are no features in claims 1 (as far as claim 1 refers to fragments of the polynucleotide as in SEQ ID NO:1) and 3(b,c) that would allow the polynucleotides of said claims to be distinguished from the ones of documents D1-D3 (Article 33(2) PCT).
- 3). Claims 1 (as far as claim 1 refers to a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity to that of SEQ ID NO:1, over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:1), 2, 3(a), 4 and 5 meet the requirements of Article 33(2) PCT because a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity to that of SEQ ID NO:1, over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:1, and related diagnostic processes were not described in the available prior art (documents D1-D3).

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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International application No. PCT/EP00/00346

- 4). The following remarks should be noted with reference to the inventivity of the polynucleotide as in SEQ ID NO:1 (Article 33(3) PCT).

The present application does not give any indication about the activity or functional role of the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 and of a possibly encoded polypeptide.

In fact, present application does not give any clear indication about the over-expression of the polynucleotide as in SEQ ID NO:1 in colon cancer tissues.

Furthermore, the way the data are expressed in tables 1 and 3 of present application, does not allow the skilled person to identify the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 as a specific marker for colon cancer.

As a matter of fact, on page 30 of present application it is recited that " the difference between Ct values (CtN-CtT) is a direct measure of the difference in transcript levels between the tumour and normal tissues ". In table 1, 15 patients were considered relevant, over a **not specified** number of tested patients.

However, it is not specified if the values under " colon range Ct " and " colon mean Ct " refer to a normal tissue, a tumour tissue or a ratio between the twos, and in this case in which order.

Moreover, in the last line of page 31 and at the beginning of page 32, it is stated that " 2 types of sequences are described, classified into categories A and B. A sequence of category A has a colon-specific expression. A sequence of category B is over-expressed in colon cancer ". The sequence having internal denomination " CASB611 " is classified in class A, therefore it should be considered a colon specific marker, not a colon cancer-specific marker.

Consequently since present application does not provide any support to the assumption that the polynucleotide as in SEQ ID NO:1 is over-expressed in colon cancer, its diagnostic role is purely speculative.

In addition to this, in present application it is referred in very general terms to a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1, immunogenic fragments thereof, vaccines comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 or its putative encoded polypeptide, a diagnostic kit comprising said polynucleotide or polypeptide, specific antibodies and ligands of said polypeptide, applications of the polynucleotide in chromosomal localization or applications of the putative encoded polypeptide in screening for agonists and antagonists of said polypeptide.

Again, no further specification is given about the above mentioned features and,

concerning the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of present invention, the description does not provide any demonstration that it is actually produced, therefore its possible role as a candidate vaccine antigen is totally speculative. In the absence of a confirmed activity/function for the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 (or likewise for the polypeptide possibly encoded by said polynucleotide), the problem to be solved is reduced to the problem of provision of new polynucleotides.

This problem is not technically meaningful.

The solution is a non-inventive selection from a host of polynucleotides.

Consequently, the subject-matter of claims 1-5 does not involve an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

- 5). The following remarks should be noted with reference to the industrial applicability of the polynucleotide as in SEQ ID NO:1 (Article 33(4) PCT).

In view of the lack of determined biological activity/function of the polynucleotide as in SEQ ID NO:1 and in view of its speculative uses, the industrial applicability does not appear to be plausible.

However, with regard to the different laws in the PCT contracting states, no objection is raised for the subject-matter of claims 1-5 on this issue.

**Re Item VIII**

**Certain observations on the international application**

- 1). The following remarks should be noted with respect to Art. 6, Rule 6 PCT.

- 2.1). In claim 1, it is not clear how a fragment of a polynucleotide can have the same immunogenic properties of the entire polynucleotide.

In other words, it is not clear how a fragment can have the same immunogenic properties of the parts of the polynucleotide not comprised in the fragment itself.

- 2.2). Claim 1 does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT in that the matter for which protection is sought is not clearly defined. The following functional statement " fragments which have the same immunogenic properties as the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 " does not enable the skilled person to determine

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/00346

which technical features are necessary for the fragments concerned, in order to perform the stated function of being immunogenic.

- 3). In claim 3(b), the hybridization and washing conditions, corresponding to " stringent hybridization conditions " are not specified. This does not allow the skilled person to unambiguously identify the claimed matter.

According to the PCT Preliminary Examination Guidelines, the meaning of the terms of a claim should, as far as possible, be clear for the person skilled in the art **from the wording of the claim alone** (PCT Guidelines C-III, 4.2).

In this case, the skilled person is well aware that the term " stringent hybridization conditions " is not sufficient to define unambiguously the subject-matter concerned, because the term " stringent " is a term which does not give any indication about how to achieve these conditions. Even the definitions " high / moderately / low stringent hybridization conditions ", if ever used, would be ambiguously interpreted and would not meet the requirements of the PCT Guidelines C-IV, III-4.5.

In addition to this, a functional limitation of the hybridizing polynucleotides is also missing.

- 4). In claim 3(c), the term " fragment " does not allow the skilled person to unambiguously identify the claimed matter because it is not specified neither the minimal length of said fragment, in terms of number of nucleotides, nor any functional limitation of said fragment.
- 5). In claims 4 and 5 it is not clear what the term " activity of a polynucleotide " refers to.

**Claims**

1. An isolated polynucleotide which comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity to that of SEQ ID Nos:1-6 over the entire length of SEQ ID Nos:1-6; or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said isolated polynucleotide; and fragments of the polynucleotides which when administered to a subject have the same immunogenic properties as the polynucleotides of SEQ ID Nos:1-6.
2. The isolated polynucleotide as defined in claim 1 in which the identity is at least 95% to SEQ ID Nos:1-6 over the entire length of SEQ ID Nos:1-6.
3. An isolated polynucleotide selected from:
  - (a) the polynucleotide of any one of SEQ ID Nos:1-6; and
  - (b) a polynucleotide obtainable by screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labelled probe having the sequence of any one of SEQ ID Nos:1-6 or a fragment thereof; and
  - (c) a fragment of (a) or (b) said fragment (if necessary when coupled to a carrier) being capable of raising an immune response which recognises the polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID Nos:1-6;or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said isolated polynucleotide.
4. A process for diagnosing a disease or a susceptibility to a disease in a subject related to presence or expression or activity of a polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 in a subject comprising analyzing for the presence or amount of said polynucleotide in a sample derived from said subject.
5. A process for diagnosing the presence of colon cancer or a susceptibility to colon cancer in a subject related to presence or expression or activity of a polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 in a subject comprising analyzing for the presence or amount of said polynucleotide in a sample derived from said subject.

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7 :  C12N 15/11, 15/12, C12Q 1/68		A3	(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 00/43509</b>  (43) International Publication Date: 27 July 2000 (27.07.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/00346  (22) International Filing Date: 17 January 2000 (17.01.00)		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(30) Priority Data:  9901078.7 19 January 1999 (19.01.99) GB 9902090.1 29 January 1999 (29.01.99) GB 9902169.3 1 February 1999 (01.02.99) GB 9902168.5 1 February 1999 (01.02.99) GB 9902163.6 1 February 1999 (01.02.99) GB 9907901.4 7 April 1999 (07.04.99) GB		Published <i>With international search report.</i>	
(71) Applicant ( <i>for all designated States except US</i> ): SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A. [BE/BE]; Rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE).  (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant ( <i>for US only</i> ): VINALS-BASSOLS, Carlotà [BE/BE]; SmithKline Beecham Biologicals S.A., Rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE).  (74) Agent: TYRRELL, Arthur, William, Russell; SmithKline Beecham, Two New Horizons Court, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9EP (GB).		(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 2 November 2000 (02.11.00)	
<p>(54) Title: POLYNUCLEOTIDES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS IN DIAGNOSTICS</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptides and polynucleotides and methods for producing such polypeptides by recombinant techniques are disclosed. Also disclosed are methods for utilizing CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptides and polynucleotides in diagnostics, and vaccines for prophylactic and therapeutic treatment of cancers, particularly colon cancers, autoimmune diseases, and related conditions.</p>			

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal ref Application No  
PCT/EP 00/00346

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 C12N15/11 C12N15/12 C12Q1/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 C12N C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID HS1220328, Accession number AA422178 19 may 1997 99.8% identity with Seq.ID:1 nt.281-784 reverse orientation XP002136186 the whole document ---	1,3
X	Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID AA587764, Accession number AA587764 18 september 1997 99.3% identity with Seq.ID:1 nt.1-441 XP002136187 the whole document ---	1,3 -/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 April 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

13.07.00

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Authorized officer

Macchia, G

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/cP 00/00346

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		Relevant to claim No.
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	
X	Nucleotide Sequence Database EMBL ID AI339648, Accession number AI339648 31 december 1998 100% identity with Seq.ID:1 nt.6-411 XP002136188 the whole document ---	1,3
A	WO 98 53319 A (THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY (US); VOGELSTEIN BERT; KINZLER KENNETH W.) 26 November 1998 (1998-11-26) abstract page 22 -page 80 ---	4,5
A	WO 97 33903 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM CORP (US); HUMAN GENOME SCIENCES INC (US); WEI Y-F) 18 September 1997 (1997-09-18) abstract page 50; claim 19 ---	4,5
A	WO 95 15381 A (JOHNS HOPKINS UNIV (US); DE LA CHAPELLE A.; VOGELSTEIN B.; KINZLER K.W) 8 June 1995 (1995-06-08) abstract page 48; claim 11 -----	4,5

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int' tional application No.  
PCT/EP 00/00346

### Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

*see additional Sheet*

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

*1-5 all partially*

#### Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

1. Claims: 1-5 all partially

A polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity to that of Seq.ID:1, a nucleotide sequence complementary to said polynucleotide, or fragments of said polynucleotide. A polynucleotide as above, in which the identity to Seq.ID:1 is at least 95%. A polynucleotide selected from: the polynucleotide of Seq.ID:1, a polynucleotide obtainable by screening an appropriate library with a labeled probe having the sequence of Seq.ID:1 or a fragment thereof, fragments or complementary nucleotide sequences thereof. A process for diagnosing a disease or susceptibility of disease, namely colon cancer, related to the presence or expression or activity of a polynucleotide, comprising analyzing the presence or amount of said polynucleotide in a sample derived from a subject.

2. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:2

3. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:3

4. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:4

5. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:5

6. Claims: 1-5 all partially

As invention 1 but concerning Seq.ID:6

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members				International Application No PCT/EP 90/00346	
Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date	
WO 9853319	A 26-11-1998	AU 7499198 A		11-12-1998	
WO 9733903	A 18-09-1997	AU 5305596 A		01-10-1997	
WO 9515381	A 08-06-1995	EP 0730648 A JP 9506509 T US 5693470 A US 5837443 A		11-09-1996 30-06-1997 02-12-1997 17-11-1998	

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> : <b>C12N 15/11, 15/12, C12Q 1/68</b>		A2	(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 00/43509</b> (43) International Publication Date: <b>27 July 2000 (27.07.00)</b>																		
(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/EP00/00346</b>		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).																			
(22) International Filing Date: <b>17 January 2000 (17.01.00)</b>		Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>																			
(30) Priority Data: <table><tr><td>9901078.7</td><td>19 January 1999 (19.01.99)</td><td>GB</td></tr><tr><td>9902090.1</td><td>29 January 1999 (29.01.99)</td><td>GB</td></tr><tr><td>9902169.3</td><td>1 February 1999 (01.02.99)</td><td>GB</td></tr><tr><td>9902168.5</td><td>1 February 1999 (01.02.99)</td><td>GB</td></tr><tr><td>9902163.6</td><td>1 February 1999 (01.02.99)</td><td>GB</td></tr><tr><td>9907901.4</td><td>7 April 1999 (07.04.99)</td><td>GB</td></tr></table>		9901078.7	19 January 1999 (19.01.99)	GB	9902090.1	29 January 1999 (29.01.99)	GB	9902169.3	1 February 1999 (01.02.99)	GB	9902168.5	1 February 1999 (01.02.99)	GB	9902163.6	1 February 1999 (01.02.99)	GB	9907901.4	7 April 1999 (07.04.99)	GB		
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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): <b>SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A. [BE/BE]; Rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE)</b>																					
(72) Inventor; and																					
(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): <b>VINALS-BASSOLS, Carlotto [BE/BE]; SmithKline Beecham Biologicals S.A., Rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE)</b>																					
(74) Agent: <b>TYRRELL, Arthur, William, Russell; SmithKline Beecham, Two New Horizons Court, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9EP (GB)</b>																					
(54) Title: <u><b>NOVEL COMPOUNDS</b></u>																					
(55) Abstract																					
<p>CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptides and polynucleotides and methods for producing such polypeptides by recombinant techniques are disclosed. Also disclosed are methods for utilizing CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptides and polynucleotides in diagnostics, and vaccines for prophylactic and therapeutic treatment of cancers, particularly colon cancers, autoimmune diseases, and related conditions.</p>																					

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*V PRTS*

## Novel Compounds

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to polynucleotides, (herein referred to as "CASB611 polynucleotide(s)", "CASB500 polynucleotide(s)", "CASB501 polynucleotide(s)", "CASB502 polynucleotide(s)", "CASB505 polynucleotide(s)", "CASB507 polynucleotide(s)"), polypeptides encoded thereby (referred to herein as "CASB611", "CASB500", "CASB501", "CASB502", "CASB505", and "CASB507" respectively or "CASB611 polypeptide(s)", "CASB500 polypeptide (s)", "CASB501 polypeptide (s)", "CASB502 polypeptide (s)", "CASB505 polypeptide (s)", "CASB507 polypeptide (s)" respectively), recombinant materials and methods for their production. In another aspect, the invention relates to methods for using such polypeptides and polynucleotides, including the diagnostics and treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases and other related conditions. In a further aspect, the invention relates to methods for identifying agonists and antagonists/inhibitors using the materials provided by the invention, and treating conditions associated with CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide imbalance with the identified compounds. In a still further aspect, the invention relates to diagnostic assays for detecting diseases associated with inappropriate CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide activity or levels.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Polynucleotides and polypeptides of the present invention are believed to be important immunogens for specific prophylactic or therapeutic immunization against tumours, because they are specifically expressed or highly over-expressed in tumours compared to normal cells and can thus be targeted by antigen-specific immune mechanisms leading to the destruction of the tumour cell. They can also be used to diagnose the occurrence of tumour cells. Furthermore, their inappropriate expression in certain circumstances can cause an induction of autoimmune, inappropriate immune responses, which could be corrected through appropriate vaccination using the same polypeptides or polynucleotides. In this respect the most important biological activities to our purpose are the antigenic and immunogenic activities of the polypeptide of the present invention. A polypeptide of the present invention may also exhibit at least one other biological activity of a CASB611,

CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide, which could qualify it as a target for therapeutic or prophylactic intervention different from that linked to the immune response.

- 5    Functional genomics relies heavily on high-throughput DNA sequencing technologies and the various tools of bioinformatics to identify gene sequences of potential interest from the many molecular biology databases now available. cDNA libraries enriched for genes of relevance to a particular tissue or physiological situation can be constructed using recently developed subtractive cloning strategies. Furthermore, cDNAs found in libraries of certain  
10   tissues and not others can be identified using appropriate electronic screening methods.

High throughput genome- or gene-based biology allows new approaches to the identification and cloning of target genes for useful immune responses for the prevention and vaccine therapy of diseases such as cancer and autoimmunity.

15

## DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

### Polynucleotides

- In a first aspect, the present invention relates to CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polynucleotides. Such polynucleotides include  
20   isolated polynucleotides comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, to SEQ ID NOs:1 – 6 respectively over the entire length of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6. In this regard, polynucleotides which have at least 97% identity are highly preferred, whilst those with at least 98-99% identity are more highly preferred, and  
25   those with at least 99% identity are most highly preferred. Such polynucleotides include a polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NOs:1 – 6 as well as the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6. Said polynucleotide can be inserted in a suitable plasmid or recombinant microorganism vector and used for immunization ( see for example Wolff et. al., Science 247:1465-1468 (1990); Corr et. al., J. Exp. Med. 184:1555-1560  
30   (1996); Doe et. al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 93:8578-8583 (1996)).  
The invention also provides polynucleotides which are complementary to the above described polynucleotides.

The invention also provides a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence that has at least 70% identity to a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide of the invention over the entire coding region, encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 - 6; or a nucleotide sequence complimentary to said isolated polynucleotide.

5

The invention also provides a fragment of a CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polynucleotide which when administered to a subject has the same immunogenic properties as the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6.

10

The invention also provides a polynucleotide encoding an immunological fragment of a CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide as hereinbefore defined.

15

The nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NO:1 (CASB611) and SEQ ID NO:2 show no homology with any known gene.. The nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NO:3-6 show homology to intron portions of the chromosomal PBEF gene (*Homo sapiens* BAC clone RP11-22N19 from 7q22, complete sequence; ACCESSION : AC007032), SEQ ID NO: 3 and 5 (CASB501 and CASB505) being located between exon 8 and exon 7 of the PBEF gene (nucleotides 67 484 to 67 966 and 68 107 to 68 583), and SEQ ID NO:4 (CASB502) and 6 (CASB507) being located downstream of exon 8 (from 69 274 to 69 732 and from 70 163 to 71 223).

20

CASB500 is located on chromosome 6 (accession number HSJ651N20).

25

Preferred polypeptides and polynucleotides of the present invention are expected to have, *inter alia*, similar biological functions/properties to their homologous polypeptides and polynucleotides. Furthermore, preferred polynucleotides of the present invention have at least one activity of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6, as appropriate.

30

The present invention also relates to partial polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences which were first identified prior to the determination of the corresponding sequences of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6.

Accordingly, in a further aspect, the present invention provides for an isolated polynucleotide which:

- (a) comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 5 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, even more preferably at least 97-99% identity to SEQ ID NO:7-12 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:7-12;
- (b) has a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, 10 even more preferably at least 97-99% identity, to SEQ ID NO:1-6 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:7-12; or
- (c) the polynucleotides of SEQ ID NO:7-12; or

The nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NO:7-12 and the peptide sequence encoded thereby 15 are derived from EST (Expressed Sequence Tag) sequences. It is recognised by those skilled in the art that there will inevitably be some nucleotide sequence reading errors in EST sequences (see Adams, M.D. *et al*, Nature 377 (supp) 3, 1995). Accordingly, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:7-12 and the peptide sequence encoded therefrom are therefore subject to the same inherent limitations in sequence accuracy.

20 Polynucleotides of the present invention may be obtained, using standard cloning and screening techniques, from a cDNA library derived from mRNA in cells of human colon cancer, (for example Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., Cold Spring harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring harbor, N.Y. (1989)). Polynucleotides of 25 the invention can also be obtained from natural sources such as genomic DNA libraries or can be synthesized using well known and commercially available techniques.

When polynucleotides of the present invention are used for the recombinant production of 30 polypeptides of the present invention, the polynucleotide may include the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide, by itself; or the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide in reading frame with other coding sequences, such as those encoding a leader or secretory sequence, a pre-, or pro- or prepro- protein sequence, or other fusion peptide portions. For example, a marker sequence which facilitates purification of the fused polypeptide can be

encoded. In certain preferred embodiments of this aspect of the invention, the marker sequence is a hexa-histidine peptide, as provided in the pQE vector (Qiagen, Inc.) and described in Gentz *et al.*, Proc Natl Acad Sci USA (1989) 86:821-824, or is an HA tag. The polynucleotide may also contain non-coding 5' and 3' sequences, such as transcribed, non-translated sequences, splicing and polyadenylation signals, ribosome binding sites and sequences that stabilize mRNA.  
5

Polynucleotides which are identical or sufficiently identical to a nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6, may be used as hybridization probes for cDNA and genomic DNA or as primers for a nucleic acid amplification (PCR) reaction, to isolate full-length cDNAs and genomic clones encoding polypeptides of the present invention and to isolate cDNA and genomic clones of other genes (including genes encoding paralogs from human sources and orthologs and paralogs from species other than human) that have a high sequence similarity to SEQ ID NO:1 - 6. Typically these nucleotide sequences are 70% identical, preferably 80% identical, more preferably 90% identical, most preferably 95% identical to that of the referent. The probes or primers will generally comprise at least 15 nucleotides, preferably, at least 30 nucleotides and may have at least 50 nucleotides. Particularly preferred probes will have between 30 and 50 nucleotides. Particularly preferred primers will have between 20 and 25 nucleotides. In particular, polypeptides or 10 15 20 25 polynucleotides derived from sequences from homologous animal origin could be used as immunogens to obtain a cross-reactive immune response to the human gene.

A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of the present invention, including homologs from species other than human, may be obtained by a process which comprises the steps of screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 1 – 6 or a fragment thereof; and isolating full-length cDNA and genomic clones containing said polynucleotide sequence. Such hybridization techniques are well known to the skilled artisan. Preferred stringent hybridization conditions include overnight incubation at 42°C in a solution comprising: 50% formamide, 5xSSC (150mM NaCl, 15mM trisodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10 % dextran sulfate, and 20 microgram/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA; followed by washing the filters in 0.1x SSC at about 65°C.  
25 30

Thus the present invention also includes polynucleotides obtainable by screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the sequence of SEQ ID NOS:1 – 6 or a fragment thereof.

- 5 The skilled artisan will appreciate that, in many cases, an isolated cDNA sequence will be incomplete, in that the region coding for the polypeptide is short at the 5' end of the cDNA.

There are several methods available and well known to those skilled in the art to obtain  
10 full-length cDNAs, or extend short cDNAs, for example those based on the method of Rapid Amplification of cDNA ends (RACE) (see, for example, Frohman et al., PNAS USA 85, 8998-9002, 1988). Recent modifications of the technique, exemplified by the Marathon™ technology (Clontech Laboratories Inc.) for example, have significantly simplified the search for longer cDNAs. In the Marathon™ technology, cDNAs have  
15 been prepared from mRNA extracted from a chosen tissue and an 'adaptor' sequence ligated onto each end. Nucleic acid amplification (PCR) is then carried out to amplify the 'missing' 5' end of the cDNA using a combination of gene specific and adaptor specific oligonucleotide primers. The PCR reaction is then repeated using 'nested' primers, that is,  
20 primers designed to anneal within the amplified product (typically an adaptor specific primer that anneals further 3' in the adaptor sequence and a gene specific primer that anneals further 5' in the known gene sequence). The products of this reaction can then be analysed by DNA sequencing and a full-length cDNA constructed either by joining the product directly to the existing cDNA to give a complete sequence, or carrying out a separate full-length PCR using the new sequence information for the design of the 5'  
25 primer.

### **Polyptides**

In a further aspect, the present invention relates to CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polyptides.

- 30 Further peptides of the present invention include isolated polypeptides encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in one of SEQ ID NOS:1 - 6.

The invention also provides an immunogenic fragment of a CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide, that is a contiguous portion of the CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide which has the same or similar immunogenic properties to the polypeptide encoded by a 5 polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in one of SEQ ID NOS:1 – 6. That is to say, the fragment (if necessary when coupled to a carrier) is capable of raising an immune response which recognises the CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide. Such an immunogenic fragment may include, for example, the 10 CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptide lacking an N-terminal leader sequence, a transmembrane domain or a C-terminal anchor domain.

The polypeptides or immunogenic fragment of the invention may be in the form of the “mature” protein or may be a part of a larger protein such as a precursor or a fusion 15 protein. It is often advantageous to include an additional amino acid sequence which contains secretory or leader sequences, pro-sequences, sequences which aid in purification such as multiple histidine residues, or an additional sequence for stability during recombinant production. Furthermore, addition of exogenous polypeptide or lipid tail or polynucleotide sequences to increase the immunogenic potential of the final 20 molecule is also considered.

In one aspect, the invention relates to genetically engineered soluble fusion proteins comprising a polypeptide of the present invention, or a fragment thereof, and various portions of the constant regions of heavy or light chains of immunoglobulins of various 25 subclasses (IgG, IgM, IgA, IgE). Preferred as an immunoglobulin is the constant part of the heavy chain of human IgG, particularly IgG1, where fusion takes place at the hinge region. In a particular embodiment, the Fc part can be removed simply by incorporation of a cleavage sequence which can be cleaved with blood clotting factor Xa. Furthermore, this invention relates to processes for the preparation of these fusion proteins by genetic 30 engineering, and to the use thereof for drug screening, diagnosis and therapy. A further aspect of the invention also relates to polynucleotides encoding such fusion proteins. Examples of fusion protein technology can be found in International Patent Application Nos. WO94/29458 and WO94/22914.

The proteins may be chemically conjugated, or expressed as recombinant fusion proteins allowing increased levels to be produced in an expression system as compared to non-fused protein. The fusion partner may assist in providing T helper epitopes

- 5 (immunological fusion partner), preferably T helper epitopes recognised by humans, or assist in expressing the protein (expression enhancer) at higher yields than the native recombinant protein. Preferably the fusion partner will be both an immunological fusion partner and expression enhancing partner.

- 10 Fusion partners include protein D from *Haemophilus influenza* B and the non-structural protein from *influenzae* virus, NS1 (hemagglutinin). Another immunological fusion partner is the protein known as LYTA. Preferably the C terminal portion of the molecule is used. Lyta is derived from *Streptococcus pneumoniae* which synthesize an N-acetyl-L-alanine amidase, amidase LYTA, (coded by the lytA gene {Gene, 43 (1986) page 265-  
15 272} an autolysin that specifically degrades certain bonds in the peptidoglycan backbone. The C-terminal domain of the LYTA protein is responsible for the affinity to the choline or to some choline analogues such as DEAE. This property has been exploited for the development of E.coli C-LYTA expressing plasmids useful for expression of fusion proteins. Purification of hybrid proteins containing the C-LYTA fragment at its amino  
20 terminus has been described {Biotechnology: 10, (1992) page 795-798}. It is possible to use the repeat portion of the Lyta molecule found in the C terminal end starting at residue 178, for example residues 188 - 305.

- 25 The present invention also includes variants of the aforementioned polypeptides, that is polypeptides that vary from the referents by conservative amino acid substitutions, whereby a residue is substituted by another with like characteristics. Typical such substitutions are among Ala, Val, Leu and Ile; among Ser and Thr; among the acidic residues Asp and Glu; among Asn and Gln; and among the basic residues Lys and Arg; or aromatic residues Phe and Tyr. Particularly preferred are variants in which several, 5-10, 1-5, 1-3, 1-2 or 1 amino  
30 acids are substituted, deleted, or added in any combination.

Polypeptides of the present invention can be prepared in any suitable manner. Such polypeptides include isolated naturally occurring polypeptides, recombinantly produced

polypeptides, synthetically produced polypeptides, or polypeptides produced by a combination of these methods. Means for preparing such polypeptides are well understood in the art.

5

#### Vectors, Host cells, Expression Systems

Recombinant polypeptides of the present invention may be prepared by processes well known in the art from genetically engineered host cells comprising expression systems. Accordingly, in a further aspect, the present invention relates to an expression system which comprises a polynucleotide of the present invention, to host cells which are genetically engineered with such expression systems and to the production of polypeptides of the invention by recombinant techniques. Cell-free translation systems can also be employed to produce such proteins using RNAs derived from the DNA constructs of the present invention.

10

For recombinant production, host cells can be genetically engineered to incorporate expression systems or portions thereof for polynucleotides of the present invention. Introduction of polynucleotides into host cells can be effected by methods described in many standard laboratory manuals, such as Davis et al., *Basic Methods in Molecular Biology* (1986) and Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2nd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1989). Preferred such methods include, for instance, calcium phosphate transfection, DEAE-dextran mediated transfection, transvection, microinjection, cationic lipid-mediated transfection, electroporation, transduction, scrape loading, ballistic introduction or infection.

15

Preferably the proteins of the invention are coexpressed with thioredoxin in trans (TIT). Coexpression of thioredoxin in trans versus in cis is preferred to keep antigen free of thioredoxin without the need for protease. Thioredoxin coexpression eases the solubilisation of the proteins of the invention. Thioredoxin coexpression has also a significant impact on protein purification yield, on purified-protein solubility and quality.

Representative examples of appropriate hosts include bacterial cells, such as *Streptococci*, *Staphylococci*, *E. coli*, *Streptomyces* and *Bacillus subtilis* cells; fungal cells, such as yeast

cells and *Aspergillus* cells; insect cells such as *Drosophila* S2 and *Spodoptera* Sf9 cells; animal cells such as CHO, COS, HeLa, C127, 3T3, BHK, HEK 293 and Bowes melanoma cells; and plant cells.

- 5    A great variety of expression systems can be used, for instance, chromosomal, episomal and virus-derived systems, e.g., vectors derived from bacterial plasmids, from bacteriophage, from transposons, from yeast episomes, from insertion elements, from yeast chromosomal elements, from viruses such as baculoviruses, papova viruses, such as SV40, vaccinia viruses, adenoviruses, fowl pox viruses, pseudorabies viruses and
- 10    retroviruses, and vectors derived from combinations thereof, such as those derived from plasmid and bacteriophage genetic elements, such as cosmids and phagemids. The expression systems may contain control regions that regulate as well as engender expression. Generally, any system or vector which is able to maintain, propagate or express a polynucleotide to produce a polypeptide in a host may be used. The appropriate
- 15    nucleotide sequence may be inserted into an expression system by any of a variety of well-known and routine techniques, such as, for example, those set forth in Sambrook *et al.*, Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual (supra). Appropriate secretion signals may be incorporated into the desired polypeptide to allow secretion of the translated protein into the lumen of the endoplasmic reticulum, the periplasmic space or the extracellular
- 20    environment. These signals may be endogenous to the polypeptide or they may be heterologous signals.

The expression system may also be a recombinant live microorganism, such as a virus or bacterium. The gene of interest can be inserted into the genome of a live recombinant

25    virus or bacterium. Inoculation and *in vivo* infection with this live vector will lead to *in vivo* expression of the antigen and induction of immune responses. Viruses and bacteria used for this purpose are for instance: poxviruses (e.g; vaccinia, fowlpox, canarypox), alphaviruses (Sindbis virus, Semliki Forest Virus, Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis Virus), adenoviruses, adeno-associated virus, picornaviruses (poliovirus, rhinovirus),

30    herpesviruses (varicella zoster virus, etc), Listeria, Salmonella, Shigella, BCG. These viruses and bacteria can be virulent, or attenuated in various ways in order to obtain live vaccines. Such live vaccines also form part of the invention.

Polypeptides of the present invention can be recovered and purified from recombinant cell cultures by well-known methods including ammonium sulfate or ethanol precipitation, acid extraction, anion or cation exchange chromatography, phosphocellulose chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, affinity chromatography, hydroxylapatite chromatography and lectin chromatography. Most preferably, ion metal affinity chromatography (IMAC) is employed for purification. Well known techniques for refolding proteins may be employed to regenerate active conformation when the polypeptide is denatured during intracellular synthesis, isolation and or purification.

10    **Vaccines**

Another aspect of the invention relates to a method for inducing, re-inforcing or modulating an immunological response in a mammal which comprises inoculating the mammal with a fragment or the entire polypeptide or polynucleotide of the invention, adequate to produce antibody and/or T cell immune response for prophylaxis or for therapeutic treatment of cancer and autoimmune disease and related conditions. Yet another aspect of the invention relates to a method of inducing, re-inforcing or modulating immunological response in a mammal which comprises, delivering a polypeptide of the present invention *via* a vector or cell directing expression of the polynucleotide and coding for the polypeptide *in vivo* in order to induce such an immunological response to produce immune responses for prophylaxis or treatment of said mammal from diseases.

A further aspect of the invention relates to an immunological/vaccine formulation (composition) which, when introduced into a mammalian host, induces, re-inforces or modulates an immunological response in that mammal to a polypeptide of the present invention wherein the composition comprises a polypeptide or polynucleotide of the invention or an immunological fragment thereof as herein before defined. The vaccine formulation may further comprise a suitable carrier. Since a polypeptide may be broken down in the stomach, it is preferably administered parenterally (for instance, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous, or intradermal injection). Formulations suitable for parenteral administration include aqueous and non-aqueous sterile injection solutions which may contain anti-oxidants, buffers, bacteriostats and solutes which render the formulation isotonic with the blood of the recipient; and aqueous and non-aqueous

sterile suspensions which may include suspending agents or thickening agents. The formulations may be presented in unit-dose or multi-dose containers, for example, sealed ampoules and vials and may be stored in a freeze-dried condition requiring only the addition of the sterile liquid carrier immediately prior to use.

5

A further aspect of the invention relates to the *in vitro* induction of immune responses to a fragment or the entire polypeptide or polynucleotide of the present invention or a molecule comprising the polypeptide or polynucleotide of the present invention, using cells from the immune system of a mammal, and reinfusing these activated immune cells of the mammal for the treatment of disease. Activation of the cells from the immune system is achieved by *in vitro* incubation with the entire polypeptide or polynucleotide of the present invention or a molecule comprising the polypeptide or polynucleotide of the present invention in the presence or absence of various immunomodulator molecules.

A further aspect of the invention relates to the immunization of a mammal by

10 administration of antigen presenting cells modified by *in vitro* loading with part or the entire polypeptide of the present invention or a molecule comprising the polypeptide of the present invention and administered *in vivo* in an immunogenic way. Alternatively, antigen presenting cells can be transfected *in vitro* with a vector containing a fragment or the entire polynucleotide of the present invention or a molecule comprising the 15 polynucleotide of the present invention, such as to express the corresponding polypeptide, and administered *in vivo* in an immunogenic way.

The vaccine formulation of the invention may also include adjuvant systems for enhancing the immunogenicity of the formulation. Preferably the adjuvant system raises 20 preferentially a TH1 type of response.

An immune response may be broadly distinguished into two extreme categories, being a humoral or cell mediated immune responses (traditionally characterised by antibody and cellular effector mechanisms of protection respectively). These categories of response 25 have been termed TH1-type responses (cell-mediated response), and TH2-type immune responses (humoral response).

Extreme TH1-type immune responses may be characterised by the generation of antigen specific, haplotype restricted cytotoxic T lymphocytes, and natural killer cell responses. In mice TH1-type responses are often characterised by the generation of antibodies of the IgG2a subtype, whilst in the human these correspond to IgG1 type antibodies. TH2-type 5 immune responses are characterised by the generation of a broad range of immunoglobulin isotypes including in mice IgG1, IgA, and IgM.

It can be considered that the driving force behind the development of these two types of 10 immune responses are cytokines. High levels of TH1-type cytokines tend to favour the induction of cell mediated immune responses to the given antigen, whilst high levels of TH2-type cytokines tend to favour the induction of humoral immune responses to the antigen.

The distinction of TH1 and TH2-type immune responses is not absolute. In reality an 15 individual will support an immune response which is described as being predominantly TH1 or predominantly TH2. However, it is often convenient to consider the families of cytokines in terms of that described in murine CD4 +ve T cell clones by Mosmann and Coffman (*Mosmann, T.R. and Coffman, R.L. (1989) TH1 and TH2 cells: different patterns of lymphokine secretion lead to different functional properties. Annual Review of Immunology, 7, p145-173*). Traditionally, TH1-type responses are associated with the production of the INF- $\gamma$  and IL-2 cytokines by T-lymphocytes. Other cytokines often directly associated with the induction of TH1-type immune responses are not produced by T-cells, such as IL-12. In contrast, TH2-type responses are associated with the secretion 20 of IL-4, IL-5, IL-6 and IL-13.

25

It is known that certain vaccine adjuvants are particularly suited to the stimulation of either TH1 or TH2 - type cytokine responses. Traditionally the best indicators of the TH1:TH2 balance of the immune response after a vaccination or infection includes direct measurement of the production of TH1 or TH2 cytokines by T lymphocytes *in vitro* after 30 restimulation with antigen, and/or the measurement of the IgG1:IgG2a ratio of antigen specific antibody responses.

Thus, a TH1-type adjuvant is one which preferentially stimulates isolated T-cell populations to produce high levels of TH1-type cytokines when re-stimulated with antigen *in vitro*, and promotes development of both CD8+ cytotoxic T lymphocytes and antigen specific immunoglobulin responses associated with TH1-type isotype.

5

Adjuvants which are capable of preferential stimulation of the TH1 cell response are described in International Patent Application No. WO 94/00153 and WO 95/17209.

10

3 De-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A (3D-MPL) is one such adjuvant. This is known from GB 2220211 (Ribi). Chemically it is a mixture of 3 De-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A with 4, 5 or 6 acylated chains and is manufactured by Ribi Immunochem, Montana. A preferred form of 3 De-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A is disclosed in European Patent 0 689 454 B1 (SmithKline Beecham Biologicals SA).

15

Preferably, the particles of 3D-MPL are small enough to be sterile filtered through a 0.22micron membrane (European Patent number 0 689 454).

3D-MPL will be present in the range of 10 $\mu$ g - 100 $\mu$ g preferably 25-50 $\mu$ g per dose wherein the antigen will typically be present in a range 2-50 $\mu$ g per dose.

20

Another preferred adjuvant comprises QS21, an Hplc purified non-toxic fraction derived from the bark of Quillaja Saponaria Molina. Optionally this may be admixed with 3 De-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A (3D-MPL), optionally together with an carrier.

The method of production of QS21 is disclosed in US patent No. 5,057,540.

25

Non-reactogenic adjuvant formulations containing QS21 have been described previously (WO 96/33739). Such formulations comprising QS21 and cholesterol have been shown to be successful TH1 stimulating adjuvants when formulated together with an antigen.

30

Further adjuvants which are preferential stimulators of TH1 cell response include immunomodulatory oligonucleotides, for example unmethylated CpG sequences as disclosed in WO 96/02555.

Combinations of different TH1 stimulating adjuvants, such as those mentioned hereinabove, are also contemplated as providing an adjuvant which is a preferential stimulator of TH1 cell response. For example, QS21 can be formulated together with 3D-MPL. The ratio of QS21 : 3D-MPL will typically be in the order of 1 : 10 to 10 : 1; 5 preferably 1:5 to 5 : 1 and often substantially 1 : 1. The preferred range for optimal synergy is 2.5 : 1 to 1 : 1 3D-MPL: QS21.

Preferably a carrier is also present in the vaccine composition according to the invention. The carrier may be an oil in water emulsion, or an aluminium salt, such as aluminium 10 phosphate or aluminium hydroxide.

A preferred oil-in-water emulsion comprises a metabolisable oil, such as squalene, alpha tocopherol and Tween 80. In a particularly preferred aspect the antigens in the vaccine composition according to the invention are combined with QS21 and 3D-MPL in such an 15 emulsion. Additionally the oil in water emulsion may contain span 85 and/or lecithin and/or tricaprylin.

Typically for human administration QS21 and 3D-MPL will be present in a vaccine in the range of 1 $\mu$ g - 200 $\mu$ g, such as 10-100 $\mu$ g, preferably 10 $\mu$ g - 50 $\mu$ g per dose. Typically the 20 oil in water will comprise from 2 to 10% squalene, from 2 to 10% alpha tocopherol and from 0.3 to 3% tween 80. Preferably the ratio of squalene: alpha tocopherol is equal to or less than 1 as this provides a more stable emulsion. Span 85 may also be present at a level of 1%. In some cases it may be advantageous that the vaccines of the present invention will further contain a stabiliser.

25

Non-toxic oil in water emulsions preferably contain a non-toxic oil, e.g. squalane or squalene, an emulsifier, e.g. Tween 80, in an aqueous carrier. The aqueous carrier may be, for example, phosphate buffered saline.

30 A particularly potent adjuvant formulation involving QS21, 3D-MPL and tocopherol in an oil in water emulsion is described in WO 95/17210.

The present invention also provides a polyvalent vaccine composition comprising a vaccine formulation of the invention in combination with other antigens, in particular antigens useful for treating cancers, autoimmune diseases and related conditions. Such a polyvalent vaccine composition may include a TH-1 inducing adjuvant as hereinbefore described.

5

**Diagnostic Assays, disease monitoring, chromosomal localisation, and gene amplification**

An important aspect of the invention, in addition to the polynucleotides themselves, also relates to the use of the polynucleotides of the present invention and oligonucleotides

10 derived from them, as diagnostic and monitoring reagents. Oligonucleotide fragments derived from the polynucleotides of the invention for use as probes or primers generally comprise at least 15 bases. Particularly preferred probes will have between 30 and 50 nucleotides. Particularly preferred primers will have between 20 and 25 nucleotides.

15 The identification of genetic or biochemical markers in blood, other biological fluids, faeces, or tissues that will enable the detection of very early changes along the carcinogenesis pathway will help in determining the best treatment for the patient and the efficacy of the treatment. Surrogate tumour markers, such as polynucleotide expression, can be used to diagnose different forms and states of cancer. The identification of expression levels of the 20 polynucleotides of the invention will be useful in both the staging of the cancerous disorder and grading the nature of the cancerous tissue. The staging process monitors the advancement of the cancer and is determined on the presence or absence of malignant tissue in the areas biopsied. The polynucleotides of the invention can help to perfect the staging process by identifying markers for the aggressivity of a cancer, for example the presence in 25 different areas of the body. The grading of the cancer describes how closely a tumour resembles normal tissue of its same type and is assessed by its cell morphology and other markers of differentiation. The polynucleotides of the invention can be useful in determining the tumour grade as they can help in the determination of the differentiation status of the cells of a tumour.

30

On the other hand, the polypeptide of the invention can be produced by stroma cells, in which cases, its specific expression or differential expression is a marker of disease conditions.

Differential expression

The diagnostic assays offer a process for diagnosing or determining a susceptibility to cancers, autoimmune disease and related conditions through diagnosis by methods

- 5 comprising determining from a sample derived from a subject an abnormally decreased or increased level of polypeptide or mRNA. This method of diagnosis is known as differential expression. The expression of a particular gene is compared between a diseased tissue and a normal tissue. A difference between the polynucleotide-related gene, mRNA, or protein in the two tissues is compared, for example in molecular weight, amino acid or nucleotide  
10 sequence, or relative abundance, indicates a change in the gene, or a gene which regulates it, in the tissue of the human that was suspected of being diseased.

Decreased or increased expression can be measured at the RNA level. PolyA RNA is first isolated from the two tissues and the detection of mRNA encoded by a gene corresponding

- 15 to a differentially expressed polynucleotide of the invention can be detected by, for example, in situ hybridization in tissue sections, reverse transcriptase-PCR, using Northern blots containing poly A+ mRNA, or any other direct or indirect RNA detection method. An increased or decreased expression of a given RNA in a diseased tissue or surrounding tissues compared to a normal tissue or in the absence of disease suggests that the transcript and/or  
20 the expressed protein has a role in the disease. Thus detection of a higher or lower level of mRNA corresponding to SEQ ID NOS 1-6 relative to normal level is indicative of the presence of cancer in the patient.

mRNA expression levels in a sample can be determined by generation of a library of

- 25 expressed sequence tags (ESTs) from the sample. The relative representation of ESTs in the library can be used to assess the relative representation of the gene transcript in the starting sample. The EST analysis of the test can then be compared to the EST analysis of a reference sample to determine the relative expression levels of the polynucleotide of interest.

- 30 Other mRNA analyses can be carried out using serial analysis of gene expression (SAGE) methodology (Velculescu et. Al. Science (1995) 270:484), differential display methodology (For example, US 5,776,683) or hybridization analysis which relies on the specificity of nucleotide interactions.

Alternatively, where the polynucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide, the comparison could be made at the protein level. The protein sizes in the two tissues may be compared using antibodies to detect polypeptides in Western blots of protein extracts from the two tissues. Expression levels and subcellular localization may also be detected immunologically using antibodies to the corresponding protein. Further assay techniques that can be used to determine levels of a protein, such as a polypeptide of the present invention, in a sample derived from a host are well-known to those of skill in the art. A raised or decreased level of polypeptide expression in the diseased tissue compared with the same protein expression level in the normal tissue indicates that the expressed protein may be involved in the disease.

In the assays of the present invention, the diagnosis can be determined by detection of gene product expression levels encoded by at least one sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOS: 1 - 6. A comparison of the mRNA or protein levels in a diseased versus normal tissue may also be used to follow the progression or remission of a disease.

#### Use of arrays for diagnosis

A large number of polynucleotide sequences in a sample can be assayed using polynucleotide arrays. These can be used to examine differential expression of genes and to determine gene function. For example, arrays of the polynucleotide sequences SEQ ID NOS 1 - 6 can be used to determine if any of the polynucleotides are differentially expressed between a normal and cancer cell. In one embodiment of the invention, an array of oligonucleotides probes comprising SEQ ID NOS 1 - 6 nucleotide sequence or fragments thereof can be constructed to conduct efficient screening of e.g., genetic mutations. Array technology methods are well known and have general applicability and can be used to address a variety of questions in molecular genetics including gene expression, genetic linkage, and genetic variability (see for example: M.Chee et al., Science, Vol 274, pp 610-613 (1996)).

30

"Diagnosis" as used herein includes determination of a subject's susceptibility to a disease, determination as to whether a subject presently has the disease, and also the prognosis of a subject affected by the disease.

The present invention, further relates to a diagnostic kit for performing a diagnostic assay which comprises:

- (a) a polynucleotide of the present invention, preferably the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 1 – 6, or a fragment thereof ;
- 5 (b) a nucleotide sequence complementary to that of (a);
- (c) a polypeptide of the present invention, preferably the polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in any one of SEQ ID Nos 1 – 6 or a fragment thereof; or
- 10 (d) an antibody to a polypeptide of the present invention, preferably to the polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in any one of SEQ ID Nos 1 – 6.
- (e) any specific ligand to a polypeptide of the present invention

15 The nucleotide sequences of the present invention are also valuable for chromosomal localisation. The sequence is specifically targeted to, and can hybridize with, a particular location on an individual human chromosome. The mapping of relevant sequences to chromosomes according to the present invention is an important first step in correlating those sequences with gene associated disease. Once a sequence has been mapped to a  
20 precise chromosomal location, the physical position of the sequence on the chromosome can be correlated with genetic map data. Such data are found in, for example, V. McKusick, Mendelian Inheritance in Man (available on-line through Johns Hopkins University Welch Medical Library). The relationship between genes and diseases that have been mapped to the same chromosomal region are then identified through linkage analysis (coinheritance of  
25 physically adjacent genes). The differences in the cDNA or genomic sequence between affected and unaffected individuals can also be determined. In addition, gene amplification at the genomic level could be assessed and correlated with the stage of disease.

30 **Antibodies**

The polypeptides of the invention or their fragments or analogs thereof, or cells expressing them, can also be used as immunogens to produce antibodies immunospecific for polypeptides of the present invention. The term "immunospecific" means that the antibodies

have substantially greater affinity for the polypeptides of the invention than their affinity for other related polypeptides in the prior art.

- In a further aspect the invention provides an antibody immunospecific for a polypeptide  
5 according to the invention or an immunological fragment thereof as hereinbefore defined.  
Preferably the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Antibodies generated against polypeptides of the present invention may be obtained by  
administering the polypeptides or epitope-bearing fragments, analogs or cells to an animal,  
10 preferably a non-human animal, using routine protocols. For preparation of monoclonal  
antibodies, any technique which provides antibodies produced by continuous cell line  
cultures can be used. Examples include the hybridoma technique (Kohler, G. and Milstein,  
C., *Nature* (1975) 256:495-497), the trioma technique, the human B-cell hybridoma  
technique (Kozbor *et al.*, *Immunology Today* (1983) 4:72) and the EBV-hybridoma  
15 technique (Cole *et al.*, *Monoclonal Antibodies and Cancer Therapy*, 77-96, Alan R. Liss,  
Inc., 1985).

Techniques for the production of single chain antibodies, such as those described in U.S.  
Patent No. 4,946,778, can also be adapted to produce single chain antibodies to polypeptides  
20 of this invention. Also, transgenic mice, or other organisms, including other mammals, may  
be used to express humanized antibodies.

The above-described antibodies may be employed to isolate or to identify clones expressing  
the polypeptide or to purify the polypeptides by affinity chromatography.  
25 The antibody of the invention may also be employed to prevent or treat cancer, particularly  
colon cancer, autoimmune disease and related conditions.

Another aspect of the invention relates to a method for inducing or modulating an  
immunological response in a mammal which comprises inoculating the mammal with a  
30 polypeptide of the present invention, adequate to produce antibody and/or T cell immune  
response to protect or ameliorate the symptoms or progression of the disease. Yet  
another aspect of the invention relates to a method of inducing or modulating  
immunological response in a mammal which comprises, delivering a polypeptide of the

present invention *via* a vector directing expression of the polynucleotide and coding for the polypeptide *in vivo* in order to induce such an immunological response to produce antibody to protect said animal from diseases.

- 5 It will be appreciated that the present invention therefore provides a method of diagnosing and/or treating abnormal conditions such as, for instance, cancer and autoimmune diseases, in particular, colon cancer, related to either a presence of, an excess of, or an under-expression of, any one of CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507.

10

#### Screening

The present invention further provides for a method of screening compounds to identify those which stimulate or which inhibit the function of any one of the CASB611, CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptides. In general, agonists or

- 15 antagonists may be employed for therapeutic and prophylactic purposes for such diseases as hereinbefore mentioned. Compounds may be identified from a variety of sources, for example, cells, cell-free preparations, chemical libraries, and natural product mixtures. Such agonists, antagonists or inhibitors so-identified may be natural or modified substrates, ligands, receptors, enzymes, etc., as the case may be, of the polypeptide; or may be structural  
20 or functional mimetics thereof (see Coligan *et al.*, Current Protocols in Immunology 1(2):Chapter 5 (1991)). Screening methods will be known to those skilled in the art. Further screening methods may be found in for example D. Bennett *et al.*, J Mol Recognition, 8:52-58 (1995); and K. Johanson *et al.*, J Biol Chem, 270(16):9459-9471 (1995) and references therein.

25

Thus the invention provides a method for screening to identify compounds which stimulate or which inhibit the function of the polypeptide of the invention which comprises a method selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) measuring the binding of a candidate compound to the polypeptide (or to the cells or  
30 membranes bearing the polypeptide) or a fusion protein thereof by means of a label directly or indirectly associated with the candidate compound;

- (b) measuring the binding of a candidate compound to the polypeptide (or to the cells or membranes bearing the polypeptide) or a fusion protein thereof in the presence of a labeled competitor;
- 5 (c) testing whether the candidate compound results in a signal generated by activation or inhibition of the polypeptide, using detection systems appropriate to the cells or cell membranes bearing the polypeptide;
- (d) mixing a candidate compound with a solution containing a polypeptide of claim 1, to form a mixture, measuring activity of the polypeptide in the mixture, and comparing the activity of the mixture to a standard; or
- 10 (e) detecting the effect of a candidate compound on the production of mRNA encoding said polypeptide and said polypeptide in cells, using for instance, an ELISA assay.

15 The polypeptide of the invention may be used to identify membrane bound or soluble receptors, if any, through standard receptor binding techniques known in the art. Well known screening methods may also be used to identify agonists and antagonists of the polypeptide of the invention which compete with the binding of the polypeptide of the invention to its receptors, if any.

20 Thus, in another aspect, the present invention relates to a screening kit for identifying agonists, antagonists, ligands, receptors, substrates, enzymes, etc. for polypeptides of the present invention; or compounds which decrease or enhance the production of such polypeptides, which comprises:  
(a) a polypeptide of the present invention;  
25 (b) a recombinant cell expressing a polypeptide of the present invention;  
(c) a cell membrane expressing a polypeptide of the present invention; or  
(d) antibody to a polypeptide of the present invention;  
which polypeptide is preferably that encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in any one of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6.

30 It will be readily appreciated by the skilled artisan that a polypeptide of the present invention may also be used in a method for the structure-based design of an agonist, antagonist or inhibitor of the polypeptide, by:

- (a) determining in the first instance the three-dimensional structure of the polypeptide;
- (b) deducing the three-dimensional structure for the likely reactive or binding site(s) of an agonist, antagonist or inhibitor;
- 5 (c) synthesizing candidate compounds that are predicted to bind to or react with the deduced binding or reactive site; and
- (d) testing whether the candidate compounds are indeed agonists, antagonists or inhibitors.

Gene therapy may also be employed to effect the endogenous production of CASB611,  
10 CASB500, CASB501, CASB502, CASB505, or CASB507 polypeptides by the relevant cells in the subject. For an overview of gene therapy, see Chapter 20, Gene Therapy and other Molecular Genetic-based Therapeutic Approaches, (and references cited therein) in Human Molecular Genetics, T Strachan and A P Read, BIOS Scientific Publishers Ltd (1996).

15

#### **Compositions and administration**

Vaccine preparation is generally described in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, Vol.61 Vaccine Design - the subunit and adjuvant approach, edited by Powell and Newman, Plenum Press, 1995. New Trends and Developments in Vaccines, edited by Voller et al.,  
20 University Park Press, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. 1978. Encapsulation within liposomes is described, for example, by Fullerton, U.S. Patent 4,235,877. Conjugation of proteins to macromolecules is disclosed, for example, by Likhite, U.S. Patent 4,372,945 and by Armor et al., U.S. Patent 4,474,757.

- 25 The amount of protein in each vaccine dose is selected as an amount which induces an immunoprotective response without significant, adverse side effects in typical vaccinees. Such amount will vary depending upon which specific immunogen is employed. Generally, it is expected that each dose will comprise 1-1000µg of protein, preferably 2-100µg, most preferably 4-40µg. An optimal amount for a particular vaccine can be  
30 ascertained by standard studies involving observation of antibody titres and other responses in subjects. Following an initial vaccination, subjects may receive a boost in about 4 weeks.

**Definitions**

"Isolated" means altered "by the hand of man" from the natural state. If an "isolated" composition or substance occurs in nature, it has been changed or removed from its

- 5 original environment, or both. For example, a polynucleotide or a polypeptide naturally present in a living animal is not "isolated," but the same polynucleotide or polypeptide separated from the coexisting materials of its natural state is "isolated", as the term is employed herein.

"Polynucleotide" generally refers to any polyribonucleotide or polydeoxribonucleotide,

- 10 which may be unmodified RNA or DNA or modified RNA or DNA including single and double stranded regions.

"Variant" refers to a polynucleotide or polypeptide that differs from a reference

polynucleotide or polypeptide, but retains essential properties. A typical variant of a

- 15 polynucleotide differs in nucleotide sequence from another, reference polynucleotide. Changes in the nucleotide sequence of the variant may or may not alter the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide encoded by the reference polynucleotide. Nucleotide changes may result in amino acid substitutions, additions, deletions, fusions and truncations in the polypeptide encoded by the reference sequence, as discussed below. A typical variant of
- 20 a polypeptide differs in amino acid sequence from another, reference polypeptide.

Generally, differences are limited so that the sequences of the reference polypeptide and

the variant are closely similar overall and, in many regions, identical. A variant and

reference polypeptide may differ in amino acid sequence by one or more substitutions, additions, deletions in any combination. A substituted or inserted amino acid residue

- 25 may or may not be one encoded by the genetic code. A variant of a polynucleotide or polypeptide may be a naturally occurring such as an allelic variant, or it may be a variant that is not known to occur naturally. Non-naturally occurring variants of polynucleotides and polypeptides may be made by mutagenesis techniques or by direct synthesis.

- 30 "Identity," as known in the art, is a relationship between two or more polypeptide sequences or two or more polynucleotide sequences, as determined by comparing the sequences. In the art, "identity" also means the degree of sequence relatedness between polypeptide or polynucleotide sequences, as the case may be, as determined by the match between

- strings of such sequences. "Identity" and "similarity" can be readily calculated by known methods, including but not limited to those described in (Computational Molecular Biology, Lesk, A.M., ed., Oxford University Press, New York, 1988; Biocomputing: Informatics and Genome Projects, Smith, D.W., ed., Academic Press, New York, 1993;
- 5 Computer Analysis of Sequence Data, Part I, Griffin, A.M., and Griffin, H.G.. eds., Humana Press, New Jersey, 1994; Sequence Analysis in Molecular Biology, von Heinje. G., Academic Press, 1987; and Sequence Analysis Primer, Gribskov, M. and Devereux. J., eds., M Stockton Press, New York, 1991; and Carillo, H., and Lipman, D., SIAM *J. Applied Math.*, 48: 1073 (1988). Preferred methods to determine identity are designed to
- 10 give the largest match between the sequences tested. Methods to determine identity and similarity are codified in publicly available computer programs. Preferred computer program methods to determine identity and similarity between two sequences include, but are not limited to, the GCG program package (Devereux, J., et al., Nucleic Acids Research 12(1): 387 (1984)), BLASTP, BLASTN, and FASTA (Atschul, S.F. et al., J. Molec. Biol. 215: 403-410 (1990). The BLAST X program is publicly available from NCBI and other sources (BLAST Manual, Altschul, S., et al., NCBI NLM NIH Bethesda, MD 20894; Altschul, S., et al., J. Mol. Biol. 215: 403-410 (1990). The well known Smith Waterman algorithm may also be used to determine identity.
- 15 20 The preferred algorithm used is FASTA. The preferred parameters for polypeptide or polynucleotide sequence comparison using this algorithm include the following:  
Gap Penalty: 12  
Gap extension penalty: 4  
Word size: 2, max 6
- 25 Preferred parameters for polypeptide sequence comparison with other methods include the following:  
1) Algorithm: Needleman and Wunsch, J. Mol Biol. 48: 443-453 (1970)  
Comparison matrix: BLOSSUM62 from Henikoff and Henikoff, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.  
30 USA. 89:10915-10919 (1992)  
Gap Penalty: 12  
Gap Length Penalty: 4

A program useful with these parameters is publicly available as the "gap" program from Genetics Computer Group, Madison WI. The aforementioned parameters are the default parameters for polypeptide comparisons (along with no penalty for end gaps).

- 5 Preferred parameters for polynucleotide comparison include the following:

1) Algorithm: Needleman and Wunsch, J. Mol Biol. 48: 443-453 (1970)

Comparison matrix: matches = +10, mismatch = 0

Gap Penalty: 50

Gap Length Penalty: 3

10

A program useful with these parameters is publicly available as the "gap" program from Genetics Computer Group, Madison WI. The aforementioned parameters are the default parameters for polynucleotide comparisons.

- 15 By way of example, a polynucleotide sequence of the present invention may be identical to the reference sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, that is be 100% identical, or it may include up to a certain integer number of nucleotide alterations as compared to the reference sequence. Such alterations are selected from the group consisting of at least one nucleotide deletion, substitution, including transition and transversion, or insertion, and  
20 wherein said alterations may occur at the 5' or 3' terminal positions of the reference nucleotide sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among the nucleotides in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence. The number of nucleotide alterations is determined by multiplying the total number of nucleotides in SEQ ID NO:1 by the  
25 numerical percent of the respective percent identity(divided by 100) and subtracting that product from said total number of nucleotides in SEQ ID NO:1, or:

$$n_n \leq x_n - (x_n \cdot y),$$

wherein  $n_n$  is the number of nucleotide alterations,  $x_n$  is the total number of nucleotides in SEQ ID NO:1, and  $y$  is, for instance, 0.70 for 70%, 0.80 for 80%, 0.85 for 85%, 0.90 for 90%, 0.95 for 95%,etc., and wherein any non-integer product of  $x_n$  and  $y$  is rounded down to the nearest integer prior to subtracting it from  $x_n$ . Alterations of a polynucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 may create nonsense,

missense or frameshift mutations in this coding sequence and thereby alter the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide following such alterations.

“Homolog” is a generic term used in the art to indicate a polynucleotide or polypeptide  
5 sequence possessing a high degree of sequence relatedness to a subject sequence. Such relatedness may be quantified by determining the degree of identity and/or similarity between the sequences being compared as hereinbefore described. Falling within this generic term are the terms “ortholog”, meaning a polynucleotide or polypeptide that is the functional equivalent of a polynucleotide or polypeptide in another species and “paralog” meaning a  
10 functionally similar sequence when considered within the same species.

**EXAMPLES****Example 1****Subtractive cDNA cloning of colon tumour-associated antigen (TAA) candidates.**

5 Subtractive cDNA libraries are produced using standard technologies. Briefly, total RNA is extracted from frozen (-70°C) colon tumour and matched normal colon samples using the TriPure reagent and protocol (Boehringer). Target RNA is prepared by pooling total RNA from three tumour samples (30 µg each). Driver RNA is prepared by pooling total RNA from three matched normal colon samples (10 µg each) and total RNA from 10 seven normal tissues other than colon(brain, heart, kidney, liver, bladder, skin, spleen; 10 µg each). Total RNA from non-colon normal tissues is purchased from InVitrogen.

Messenger RNA is purified from total RNA using oligo-dT magnetic bead technology (Dynal) and quantified by spectrofluorimetry (BioRad).

15 Target and driver mRNA are reverse transcribed into cDNA using one of two strategies: 1) Target sequences for PCR oligonucleotides are introduced onto the ends of the newly synthesised cDNA during reverse transcription using the template switching capability of reverse transcriptase (ClonTech SMART PCR cDNA synthesis kit). 2) Target 20 and driver mRNA are reverse transcribed into cDNA using an oligo-dT primer and converted to double-strand cDNA; the cDNA is cleaved with RsaI and linkers for PCR amplification are ligated onto the extremities of the cDNA fragments.

In both cases, target and driver cDNA are amplified by long range PCR (ClonTech 25 SMART PCR Synthesis Kit and Advantage PCR Polymerase Mix) and used as starting material for subtractive cloning. For amplification, cycling conditions and optimisation of the number of PCR cycles are as described in the Advantage PCR protocol.

Two subtractive cloning strategies are used: ClonTech PCR SELECT (see 30 ClonTech kit protocol and N. Gurskaya et al. 1996. Analytical Biochemistry: 240, 90) and cRDA(M. Hubank and D. Schatz. 1994. Nucleic Acids Research: 22, 5640) . When the PCR SELECT protocol is used, the primary PCR SELECT subtraction products are submitted to

a supplementary round of cRDA subtraction. When the cRDA protocol is used, two consecutive cycles of cRDA subtraction are performed.

5 In each case the products of both cycles of subtraction are cloned into pCR-TOPO (InVitrogen) and transformed into E. coli to produce a subtracted cDNA plasmid library.

An alternative strategy is also followed: subtraction of normal colon sequences and sequences from non-colon normal tissues are subtracted in separate hybridisations. In this case, target and driver RNA are assembled for the first subtraction as above with the  
10 exception that non-colon RNA is left out of the driver pool and amounts of normal colon are increased to 10 µg. Preparation of target and driver cDNA and subtractive hybridisation are performed as described above. A second subtraction is then performed on the products of the first subtraction, but the driver is now composed of a pool of normal colon and normal non-colon mRNA from the seven normal tissues.  
15

#### Differential Screening of cDNA arrays.

Identification of tumour-associated genes in the subtracted cDNA library is accomplished by differential screening.

20 Total bacterial DNA is extracted from 100 µl over-night cultures. Bacteria are lysed with guanidium isothiocyanate and the bacterial DNA is affinity purified using magnetic glass (Boehringer). Plasmid inserts are recovered from the bacterial DNA by Advantage PCR amplification (Clontech). The PCR products are dotted onto two nylon membranes to produce high density cDNA arrays using the Biomek 96 HDRT tool (Beckman). The  
25 spotted cDNA is covalently linked to the membrane by UV irradiation. The first membrane is hybridised with a mixed cDNA probe prepared from the tumour of a single patient. The second membrane is hybridised with an equivalent amount of mixed cDNA probe prepared from normal colon of the same patient. The probe cDNA is prepared by PCR amplification as described above and is labelled using the AlkPhos Direct System (Amersham).  
30 Hybridisation conditions and stringency washes are as described in the AlkPhos Direct kit. Hybridised probe is detected by chemiluminescence. Hybridisation intensities for each cDNA fragment on both blots (see figure 1) are measured by film densitometry or direct measurement (BioRad Fluor-S Max). The ratio of the tumour to normal hybridisation

intensities (T/N) is calculated for each gene to evaluate the degree of over-expression in the tumour. Genes which are significantly over-expressed in colon tumours are followed-up. Significance is arbitrarily defined as one standard deviation of the T/N frequency distribution. Differential screening experiments are repeated using RNA from multiple patient donors (>18) to estimate the frequency of over-expressing tumours in the patient population.

In addition, the DNA arrays are hybridised with mixed cDNA probes from normal tissues other than colon (see list above) to determine the level of expression of the candidate gene in these tissues.

### Example 2

#### Real-time RT-PCR analysis

Real-time RT-PCR (U. Gibson. 1996. Genome Research: 6,996) is used to compare mRNA transcript abundance of the candidate antigen in tumour and normal colon tissues from multiple patients. In addition, mRNA levels of the candidate gene are re-evaluated by this approach in a panel of normal tissues.

Total RNA is extracted from snap frozen colon tissue biopsies using TriPure reagent (Boehringer). Total RNA from normal tissues is from InVitrogen as above. Poly-A<sup>+</sup> mRNA is purified from total RNA after DNAase treatment using oligo-dT magnetic beads (Dynal). Quantification of the mRNA is performed by spectrofluorimetry (BioRad) using SybrII dye (Molecular Probes). Primers for amplification are designed with the Perkin-Elmer Primer Express software using default options for TaqMan amplification conditions.

Real-time reactions are assembled according to standard PCR protocols using 2 ng of purified mRNA for each reaction. SybrI dye (Molecular Probes) is added at a final dilution of 1/75000 for real-time detection. Amplification (40 cycles) and real-time detection is performed in a PE 7700 system. Ct values are calculated using the 7700 Sequence Detector software for the tumour (CtT) and normal (CtN) samples of each patient. The difference between Ct values (CtN-CtT) is a direct measure of the difference in transcript levels between the tumour and normal tissues. As Ct values are log-linearly

related to copy number and that the efficiency of PCR amplification under the prevailing experimental conditions is close to the theoretical amplification efficiency,  $2^{(CtN-CtT)}$  is an estimate of the relative transcript levels in the two tissues (i.e. fold mRNA over-expression in tumor). The percentage of over-expressing patients and the average level of mRNA over-expression in the tumors of these patients is calculated from the data set of patients.

The values indicated in table 1 are "Colon range Ct" and "colon mean Ct", representing the range and mean of Ct values for colon sample pairs, to assess the global mRNA abundance, 40 corresponding to the maximum Ct and thus to an absence of amplification.

TABLE 1: Expression of CASB genes in colon cancer and normal colon

Gene name	relevant /tested patients	colon range Ct	colon mean Ct
CASB611	15	20-40	28.4
CASB500	18	17-26.5	22
CASB501	17	20.5-40	25.7
CASB502	18	31.4-37.3	25.6
CASB505	17	22.6-40	29
CASB507	9	29.5-40	33.8

15

TABLE 2:

Gene name	Patients over-expressing CASB in colon tumours (%)	Average level of over-expression in colon tumours (fold)
CASB500	94%	5
CASB501	71%	5
CASB502	61%	7
CASB505	76%	18
CASB507	78%	7

20

In addition, Ct values for 12 normal tissues are reported. The tissues tested are bladder, brain, breast, cervix, heart, kidney, liver, lung, oesophagus, placenta and uterus. The range and mean of the Ct value is an indicator of the specificity of tissue expression. Thus, 2 types of sequences are described, classified into categories A and B. A sequence

of category A has a colon-specific expression. A sequence of category B is overexpressed in colon cancer.

5 TABLE 3: Expression of CASB genes in normal tissues

Gene name	Normal	NT	NT	class	Comments
	Tissues	Range Ct	mean Ct		
CASB611	12	22-40	33	A	High only in rectum
CASB500	12	19-26.5	22.5	B	
CASB501	12	22.5-28.5	25.3	B	
CASB502	12	21.5-28.5	23	B	
CASB505	12	14-35	26.5	B	High in lung
CASB507	12	33.5-38.5	35	B	

NT range Ct and mean Ct: Ct values (range and mean) in normal tissues

10

### Example 3

#### Identification of the full length cDNA sequence

- Colon tumour cDNA libraries are constructed using the Lambda Zap system (Stratagene) from 2 µg of polyA+ mRNA as described in the supplied protocol. 1.5 × 10<sup>6</sup> independent phage are plated for each screening of the library. Phage plaques are transferred onto nylon filters, hybridised using a cDNA probe labelled with AlkPhos Direct (Amersham Pharmacia) and positive phage are detected by chemiluminescence. The positive phage are excised from the agar plate, eluted in 500 µl SM buffer and confirmed by gene-specific PCR. Eluted phage are converted to single strand M13 bacteriophage by *in vivo* excision. The bacteriophage is then converted to double strand plasmid DNA by infection of *E. coli*. Infected bacteria are plated and submitted to a second round of screening with the cDNA probe. Plasmid DNA is purified from positive bacterial clones and submitted to Southern blot analysis to estimate the size of the cDNA inserts. CDNA inserts from multiple independent clones are sequenced on both strands.

- When the full length gene cannot be obtained directly from the cDNA library, missing sequence is isolated using RACE technology (Marathon Kit, ClonTech.). This approach relies on reverse transcribing mRNA into double strand cDNA, ligating linkers onto the ends of the cDNA and amplifying the desired extremity of the cDNA using a gene-specific

primer and one of the linker oligonucleotides. Marathon PCR products are cloned into a plasmid and sequenced.

- 5 All publications, including but not limited to patents and patent applications, cited in this specification are herein incorporated by reference as if each individual publication were specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference herein as though fully set forth.

**SEQUENCE INFORMATION****SEQ ID 1:**

CTGCATTGAGTTATTTATTACTGTTGGATGCTTTCCAGCAGACTCATGTCAGGAG  
 5 GCTAGGAAGGGATCCTGGGACCCTGGATGCTGGTAGTTAAATGCCAGGAGGCTGAATGGACCTGAAGA  
 TGGAGGAGACTCTGCACTCTGGTCAAGCCACCCCTGGTGGCCACCCCTGCACTCTAGCAGGATTGATGG  
 TCTCTGGATTGTAGCTGTGACCGGTATGGTGAATGCTCGGTGGTGCACGGAGGCCCACATGGTG  
 GCGACTGAGGCCCTGTGGGTGAGGTTGGCTCATGATAGCTCTGAAAGTTGATGGCACATTGAGACAAGGA  
 CGTGGAGTTCTGAACTTCCCAGGGCTTGCAAGCCGAGATGAAGCCCTAACATTGCACTGCT  
 10 GTGAAGGCTGAAAGGGAGACAGGAGGCTGCTGGGTACCTCAGGTGCCAGGCATGAGGTTCTCCGCTGTCTG  
 GAGTCTTGCTTGGAGTGCTACACCTGTGGACTCCCCAGGCACCACCAAAGGCAGGGCTTGCTCAAG  
 CTTGCATGGTTACAGAGCCTCACATGATGTCCTTCAGGTTGTTGAGTGGCTAGGGACTCGGTGGCA  
 GCAGAGCCTGGTCTCCTGCCTGACCAGGCCGTTGGCAGGACGCCTTCCCTCTGTTGAGAAGATGGAGA  
 AGCAGAGAAGCAGGATAACAGAGCAGGCTGGAAAGGACTAGAACGCCTATGGTGAGAAGGCAGATTCCCTC  
 15 GTTCCGAAT

**SEQ ID NO 2:**

TTTTTAGGGTTCAAGTCCAGCTGATTTATTCCTCTCAAAAAAAAGTTATTACAGAAGGTATATCAA  
 CAATCTGACAGGCAGTGAACCTGACATGATTAGCTGGCATGATTTTCTTTTCCCCAACATTGTT  
 20 TTTGTGGCCTTGAATTAAAGACAAATATTCTACACGGCATATTGCACAGGATGGATGGCAAAAAAAAGTT  
 AAAAACAAAAACCCCTAACCGAACACTGCCTAAAAGGCAGACGTCCTAGTGCTGTATGTTATATAACAA  
 TACATACACACAATCTTTGCTTATTATAACAGACTAAATGTACAAAGATGTTTCACTTTTCAA  
 TTTTAAACACAACAGCTATAAACCTGAACACATATGCTATCATGCCATAAGACTAAACAAATTATATT  
 TAGCGACAAGTAGAGAAGGATTAAATAGTCAAATACAAGAATGAAAAGCAGTACATAGTGTGCGAAGCTCA  
 25 AATCGGCATTTAGATAGATCCAGTGGTTAACGGCACGTTTGCTTATAAAAAAAAGTCACAAAAAGATGT  
 GGTTACAAGTTAAAGCTACAGAACCTTTGCTGTAATTGCACCGTTAAAGCCTCTGGACAGAGCA  
 GTATTGCTTAAACCTTGTGTTCTAAAGCTACAGTGTGTTGGCTATTCTCCCTTTTACAAG  
 ACGGGGCCGGAGGGTGGACACTGGTGGCAGGTTAAGGGATACTGTCACCTTAAGAACGCCTGCAGATTGAAG  
 TGTAACATGGAGAAATTAGGGCTGATTTTAAACTGTGTGAGATATTAACCGCCCTGTTATAAAA  
 30 TCAGGAAATCCAACAGCATTACACCGATTAACACCCCTTATATATTTCACAAAATACACTGAGA  
 AAATAATCAAACGTTTCATCTCTTGTCTTTGTTTAAAGCTACATTAAAGTCTACATTAAATA  
 TAAAAAAATTAAAGTTAAACACTCTAGCCCTCAGTGAAGGAGACGTAACATGGCTGGTAACAACAACACT  
 CAAAAAAAGAAAAAAAGAAAAAAAGGAAAGGAAGGAATAAGAAATAAGGAAGTAAAAGAAAG  
 GAAAGAAAAAAAGGGACAAAGAAAAATATGTTGGCCAGTATAACGTCCCACATATAAAATGGCAT  
 35 CTGATTACATTACAAGGAAAAAGAAATACGAGGATGGAGCATCGGTGAAGGAAAAAAACACGTCTCTCAT  
 TTACACCTATAAGGAATAAACACACACTGAGAAAAATTGGCCCTGATATTGTTTTAAAGTCCAGCA  
 CAGATTGAGTTGCCTTGAATCCTTAAAGAGTTAAGAATGAAAAAAAGCTGGTGTATAATTGTTGAGG  
 AATCAAACATAGGCCATCTATGCTTTATATTACACTATTAAACTGCTAACAGCTTA

TACAGAAATCTTAAAAGATAGACAGGATAACATGCTATATTAAACCCACCATTGAAATAATCCAACACCAT  
CACGATTCCGATTAAGAGAAGNAAAAAT

**SEQ ID NO: 3**

5 GAGAAATTTAATTGGTGTACAAAACCTTTAGTTAGTAGTGAAATGAGTAAGATGATTGTGATTGTGCAG  
TTGGCTTAAGAGCAAAGGAGAACCTAGAGACTATGGGTTCTAGATGCTGTCTGCCCTTCACAGTTCT  
CTGAACCTTGATGAACTGGATTCAATTGGAGTTATATATCAGACAAAACCAAAGTCATTGGCACAA  
GCAGAATAAGTCAAATTAAAGTATAATCATGAGTTGTTAAATAATGCTTATATACTTCTTAAATAT  
ACTTATTTAATATTAAGGATTTTTCTGAATCCATATAATTGAAAGGCTAAGGGGAAACTTGT  
10 TTTGAGCCACTTTATGATGTGAATTCACTTCATAGGAAATAACATGCTGGTTTAATGTACTTTAACCC  
TTTTAAAGTACACTGGACCAATTAGAGACATATACATAGTTATAAAAT

**SEQ ID NO: 4**

15 CAGTTCTGAAATCTGAAATCCNGTTCTGAAATCTTGAAATTGCCCTCCANTGGCCATTTCCTTGAGC  
CAAAGTTTCAGATTTGGAGCATTGGATTGGATGCTCACACTGTGTAATATTGTTAAATATATAA  
TGTAAATAATTAAAGATCTCAAACAATTAAATTGAAAATTACCATTAATTATGCCAGATTGGTCATT  
CTCCCTAATTTCAGTCCGCCTTAATCTGTTCTCTAGTAATAATAAAAGATAGCACATTCAATTATT  
ATAAAGCCCCAAGTAGGTATAAGTTAACTCATAACTGTTGAAAGAGTCAGCTTATGCTGAAATAATCAC  
20 TTATACAATGTTGTTGTTTAAAGGACTAGACTAGTAAAGCTTCCCACACTGTCAATGG  
TATACCTGGGGTACTGCAGCATCACATTCAAGATTGAAAGACTACTACCGAACATCAAAATTGAGAGAG  
AACCTGTTATATAAAACTATTAGTGAACACTTCTTAACGCTACAGAGGCTGCCAGTAGCTATGATGT  
TAATTCTCTACTTCATGCATCTGAGGCTAAATGAAAATTAGATATGACTGAAGAGAAAGCTCTTCAT  
ATTCAAGGCTGCAACTTCTCTTAAAGGAGAGAATTAGATCAATGAATACCAAACTGGAGAACTTT  
25 ACAACGTATGAATTAACCTCACAGTCAAGGGGCACTACTTAACTGTTGATCAGTAAGTCACCTAACGA  
TCTACTGTATCATGCTAGCAAACCTCACTGCCCCATCTTAATTGCTTCTCCATGACACCTGAATTTC  
CTGATGCTTCTCTCTGACTTCATGACATCTCCCATGTTCACTTAACTCTGAGATGGCAATATTCTCATAG  
CCTTCTGACTCTCCAGATGCTGCTCTCTTAACTCAACCTGTCAGATGGCAATATTCTCATAG  
TTCTGACTTAGGCACTGTCTCTGTAACATACCTGTTGAAACACTCAAAGCTT

**SEQ ID NO: 5**

30 ACATTTTATTACGTAACAGTAAAACATGAAACCTATCAAGTTGCTAAAACAAATTGCAAGGCTAAG  
ACAAGACTTTCAAGATTGGCTATCATTTAATAGAATAAGAAAAGACCTCTTAATTCTGTTCCCTTCTTA  
35 AGGGTAAGTATCATCTGCTCATTAAC TGACAAATGGTGTGTCAGTAGCAAGGCTGCAGC AAAAGACCT  
ACACTGGATATCTGACTCTTATCTTCTGACTGTTGACCTTGAGCAAGTTACTTTAACCTTTAAAGCCT  
CTGNTTTCTCTTCTATAACAGAGACAGTAATTTTACTGGTTTTTGAGAGATTAATGGCGTAT  
CTTATGTAATCACCTAAATATTCTAGGTAGTAGGCAATGAAACTAACGCTGCTTACTACTTTGGGA  
GAAGATAACCAGGTCTGGACATTACCAACAAAGTACCTG

**SEQ ID NO: 6**

40 CCGACGTGACTATCCAAGATGTAATTATGGCATATAGTTCAAAACCTACAGAAGGGAGCCAGGTGC  
TCTCATGGCTAACAAAATAATGAAATATGTTAGCTTCACTTGACATACAGTATAAAGGGCACTC  
45 AGCAAGTGTCTTTAGTTAGACTGATTTAAATGAGTAGATTCAAGGAAATACAGAAAACGACACACACACA  
GATAATTGGTAAAGAACAGGGTAGAAACTTAACCTGAGAAGGGAGTAAGGCTACTTAAAGCGTAAAAA  
ACTAATTGGTAAGGTATGGTGACCCAGCTACTCATTGCTTACGATGTATATTCAAAACTAAGTCA  
CTCACCTCTGTGATGTTGAGTGGTTGGTATAGTAACATGAGATATGATTAAGGTGATTCAAGGATAG  
ATCAAGTGTGCTAACATGGGNTTCAATTCTAGACATCTGGGA

**SEQ ID NO: 7**

50 TTGAGTTTATTATTTACTTGTGTTCTGGATGCTTTCCAGCAGACTCATGTCAGGAGGCTA  
GGAAGGGATTCCCTGGGACCACTGGATGCTGTTAGTTAAATGCCAGGAGGCTGAATGGACCTGAAGATGGA  
55 GGAGACTCTGCAGTCTGGTCAGCCACCCCTGGGTCTGCCACCCCTGCACTCTAGCAGGATTGATGGCTC  
TGGATTGAGCTGTGACCGGTACATGGTGGAAATGCTCGGTGGTTGCAGTGGAGAGGCCACATGGTGGCGA

CTGAGGCCCTGTGGGTGAGGTTGGCTCATGATAGCTCTGAAAGTTGATGGCACAATTGAGACAAGGACGTG  
 GAGTTCTGGAACCTTCCCAGGGTCCCTGCAGCCCGAGATGAAGCCCTCAACATTGCAGCTCACTGCTGTGA  
 AGGCTGAAAGGGAGACAGGGAGCTGGACTACCTCAGGTGCCAGGCATGAGGTTCTCGCTGTGGAGT  
 CTTGCTTGGGAGTGCTACACCTGTGGACTCCCCAGGCACCAACCCAAAGGCGGGCTCTGGCTCAACCTG  
 5 CATGGTTTACAGGCCCTCACATGATGTCCTTCAGGTTGAGTTGGACTCGGTGGCAGCAG  
 AGCCTGGTCTCTCGCTGACCAGGCCGTTGGCAGGACGCCCTTCCCCCTGTGGAGAAGATGGAGAAGCA  
 GAGAACAGGATAACAGAGCAGGCTGGAAAGGACTAGAACGCTCATGGTGAGAAGGCAGATTTCCCTCGTTC  
 CGAAT

10 **SEQ ID NO: 8**

TTTTTTAGGGTCAAGTCCAGTGTATTTATTCTCTCAAAAAAGTTATTAACAGAA  
 GGTATATATCAACAACTGACAGGCAGTGAACCTGACATGATTAGCTGGCATGATTTTT  
 CTTTTTTTCCCCAAACATTGTTTGTGGCTTGAATTAAAGACAAATATTCTACAC  
 15 GGCATATTGCAACAGGATGGATGGCTTAAAGGAAACAAAACCCCTAACGGAAC  
 TGCCATTAAAAGGAGCACAGCTCTAGTGCCTGTCATGTTATTTAACATACACAC  
 ATCTTTTGCTTATATAATACAGCTTAAATGTCAGGAAAGATGTTTCACTTTTCAA  
 TTTTAAACACAAACAGCTATAACCTAACATATGCTATCATGCAACAAAGACTAA  
 AACAAATTATATTAGCGACAAGTAGAAAGGATAATAGTCACAAACAAAGAATGAAAAC  
 20 GCAGTACATAGTGTGCGAACTCAATCGGCATTTAGATAGATCCAGTGGTTAACGGC  
 ACGTTTTGCTTATAAAAAGTCAAAAAAGATGTCAGGTTAACAGTTAAAGCTACAGAA  
 TCCCTTTTGCTGTAATTGCAACAGTTAAAGCCTCTGGACAGAGCAGTATTGTTA  
 AAACCTGTTTCTAAAGCTACAGTGTGGCTAATTCTCCCTTTTACAAG  
 ACGGGGCCGGAGGGTGGACACTGGCAGGTTAACGGGAACTGTCACTTAAGAAC  
 25 TGCAGATTGAAGTGTAAACATGGAGAAATTAGGGCTGATTTTAAACTGTGAGATA  
 TTAACCAGCGCCCTGTTATAAAATCAGGAAATCCAACAGCGATTACACCGATTAACA  
 CCCCCCTTATATATTTTACAAAAATACAGTGGAAATAATCAAACGTTTCACTCT  
 CTTGTCCTTTTTGTTTAAAGTGTCAAAGTCTACATTAAATATAAAATTAA  
 AGTTAAAACCTAGGCCCTCAGTGAAGGAGACGTAATGGCTGGTAACAACAACTAC  
 30 CAAAAAAAAGAAAAAAAGAAAAAGGAAAGGAAAGGAAATAAGAAATAAAAGGAA  
 GTAAAAAGAAGGAAAGGAAAGGGACAAAAGGAAAGGAAATGTTGGCCCAGTATAAA  
 TACGTCACATATAAAATGGCATCTGATTACATTACAAGGAAAGAAATACGAGGAT  
 GGAGCATCGGTGAAGGAAAAACACCTCTCTCATTTACACCTATAAGGAATAACACA  
 CACACTGAGAAAAATTGGCCCTGAATTGTTTAAAGTCCAGCACAGATTGAGTT  
 35 GCGTTGAATCCTTAAAGAGTTAAGAATGAAAAAGCTGGTGTATAATTGTTGAGG  
 AATCAAACATAGGCCATCTATCTGCTTTTATATTCTACACTATTAAACTGC  
 TCAACACTTATACAGAAATTTAAAGATAGACAGGAAACATGCTATATTAAACCC  
 ACCATTGAAATAATCCAACACCATCACGATTCCGATTAAGAGAACGNAAAAAA  
 AAC

40 **SEQ ID NO: 9**

GAGAAATTAAATTGGTGTACAAAACCTTTAGTAGTTAGTGAATGAGTAAGATGATTGTTGATGAG  
 TTTGGCTTAAGAGCAAAGGAGAACTTAGAGACTATGGGTTCTAGATGCTGTGCTGCCCTTCAGTTCT  
 CTGAACTTTGTGATTGAACTGGATTCATATTGAGTTATATATCAGACAAAACCCAAAGTCATTGGCACA  
 45 GCAGAAATAAGTCCAAATTAAAAGTATAATCATGAGTTGTTAAATAATGCTTATATACTTCTTAAATAT  
 ACTTATTAATATTAAAGGTTTTTCTGATGTTAAAGTCAACATGCTTAAAGGGAAACTGT  
 TTGAGGCCACTTATGATGTAATTCACTCATGGAAATAACATGCTTAAAGTACTTAAACCC  
 TTTAAAGTACACTGGACCAAATTAGAGAGCATATACTAGTGTATAAAAT

50 **SEQ ID NO: 10**

TTTTTTTTAAGCTTGTGAGTGTTCACACAAGGTATGTTACAGAAGACAAGTGCCTAAGTCAGAACTAT  
 GAGAAATAATGCCATCTGACAGGTTAGATTAAAGAAGGAGAGCAGCATCTGGAGACTGAAAAGGAAAC  
 CATAGAAATAGGGAAAAATGGTGAACATGGGAGAGTGTCAATTGAAAGTCAGAGAAAGAACATCAGGAAA  
 55 ATTCAAGGTGTCACTGGAGAAAGCAAGTAAGATGGGAGACTGAAGTTGCTAGACATGATACAAGTAGATCGT  
 TAGGTGACTTACTGATAACGTTATAAGTAGTGACCCCTTAACCTAGGGAGTTAACATCATACTGTTGAAAG  
 TTCTCCAGTATTGGTATTGATCTTAACTGAGAGGAAATAGAGAGCATATACTAGTGTATAAAAT  
 GGAGG

**SEQ ID NO: 11**

5 CTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCAGCGTGGTCGCCGAGGTACATTTTATTACGTAACAGTAAAACAT  
GAAACCTATCAAGTTGCTAAAACCAAATATTGCAGGCTAAGACAAGACTTCAGATGGCTATCATTAA  
TAGAATAAGAAAAGACCTCTTAATTCTGTTCCCTTCTTAAGGGTAAGTATCATCTGCTCATTA  
10 CAAATGGTGTGGTCAAGTAGCAAGGCTGCAGCCAAAAGACCTACACTGGATATCTGACTCCTATCTTCA  
GTTGTGTGACCTTGAGCAAGTTACCTTAACCTTTAAGCCTCTGTTTTCTATAACAGAGACAGTA  
ATATTATCACTGTTTTTTGTAGAGATTAAATGGCGTATCTTATGTAATCACCTAAATTTTCTA  
GTAGTAGGGCATCAAATAAGCCCTGCTATTACTACTTTGAAGAAGATAACCAAGTCCCTGGAACATTA  
15 ACCACCAAAAGTACCACTGGTTTCACACCCCCC

**SEQ ID NO: 12**

15 CCTATGCATCAAGCTTGGTACCGAGCTGGATCCACTAGTAACGGCCGCCAGTGTGCTGGAATTGCCCTTA  
CCGACGTCGACTATCCAAGATGTACTATTATTGGCATATAGTTCAAAAATTACAGAAGGGAGCCAGGTGC  
TCTCATTGCTAACAAAATAGGAAATATGTATTCTTCAACATCTGACATACAGTATAAGGGCACTC  
AGCAAGTGCTTTAGTTAGACTGATTTAAATGAGTAGATCAGGAATAACCGAAAACGCACACACACACA  
GATAATTGGTGAAGGAAATACGAGGTTAGAAACTAACCTGAAAGAGGAGTAAGGCTACTAAAGCGTAAAA  
ACTAATTGGTAAAGGTATGGTTGACCCAGCTACTTCATTGCTTACGATGTATATTCTTAAACTAAGTCA  
20 CTCACCTCTCTGTATGGTGTGATGGTTGGTATAGTAAACATGAGATATGATTAAAGGTGATTCAAGGATAG  
ATCAAGTGTCTGCTAACATCTGGGNTTCAATTCTAGACATCTGGGA

**Claims**

1. An isolated polynucleotide which comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity to that of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6 over the entire length of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6; or  
5 a nucleotide sequence complementary to said isolated polynucleotide; and fragments of the polynucleotides.

2. The isolated polynucleotide as defined in claim 1 in which the identity is at least 95% to SEQ ID Nos: 1 - 6.

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3. An isolated polynucleotide selected from:

- (a) the polynucleotide of any one of SEQ ID NOs:1- 6; and
  - (b) a polynucleotide obtainable by screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs:1 - 6 or a fragment thereof; and
  - (c) a fragment of (a) or (b);
- or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said isolated polynucleotide

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4. A process for diagnosing a disease or a susceptibility to a disease in a subject related to presence or expression or activity of a polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 in a subject comprising analyzing for the presence or amount of said polynucleotide in a sample derived from said subject.

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5. A process for diagnosing the presence of colon cancer or a susceptibility to colon cancer in a subject related to presence or expression or activity of a polynucleotide of any one of claims 1 to 3 in a subject comprising analyzing for the presence or amount of said polynucleotide in a sample derived from said subject.

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**Figure 1**  
**Hybridization blot for differential screening**

